

REMARKS

This Response is filed in reply to the Office Action dated June 15, 2004. The issues of the June 15, 2004 Office Action are presented below with reference to the Office Action.

With regard to the Office Action, paragraph 1: The Examiner indicated patentably distinct species in claims 8-11 where claim 1 is generic. As required by 35 U.S.C. 121, Applicant elects, with traverse, the species of claim 8. Applicant considers claims 8-11 to be generic as providing a characteristic of data values of an attribute. The Applicant expressly reserves the right to prosecute species not elected herein in other patent applications claiming the benefit of the filing date of this application. Furthermore, the Applicant understands that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant is entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the features of any allowed generic claims.

With regard to the Office Action, paragraph 2: The Examiner indicated patentably distinct species in claims 15-18, where claim 14 is generic. As required by 35 U.S.C. 121, Applicant elects, with traverse, the species of claim 16. Applicant considers claims 15-18 to be generic as providing a characteristic of usage instructions. The Applicant expressly reserves the right to prosecute species not elected herein in other patent applications claiming the benefit of the filing date of this application. Furthermore, the Applicant understands that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant is entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the features of any allowed generic claims.

With regard to the Office Action, paragraph 3: The Examiner indicated patentably distinct species in claims 28-31, where claim 21 is generic. As required by 35 U.S.C. 121, Applicant elects, with traverse, the species of claim 16. Applicant considers claims 28-31 to be generic as providing a characteristic of data values of an attribute. The Applicant expressly reserves the right to prosecute species not elected herein in other patent applications claiming the benefit of the filing date of this application. Furthermore, the Applicant understands that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant is entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the features of any allowed generic claims.

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With regard to the Office Action, paragraph 4: The Examiner indicated patentably distinct species in claims 35-38, where claim 34 is generic. As required by 35 U.S.C. 121, Applicant elects, with traverse, the species of claim 36. Applicant considers claims 35-38 to be generic as providing a characteristic of usage instructions. The Applicant expressly reserves the right to prosecute species not elected herein in other patent applications claiming the benefit of the filing date of this application. Furthermore, the Applicant understands that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant is entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the features of any allowed generic claims.

With regard to the Office Action, paragraph 5: The Examiner indicated patentably distinct species in claims 43, 45, 46, and 48, where claim 31 is generic. As required by 35 U.S.C. 121, Applicant elects, with traverse, the species of claim 43. Applicant considers claims 35-38 to be generic as providing a characteristic of updating the list. The Applicant expressly reserves the right to prosecute species not elected herein in other patent applications claiming the benefit of the filing date of this application. Furthermore, the Applicant understands that upon allowance of a generic claim, Applicant is entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the features of any allowed generic claims.

With regard to the Office Action, paragraphs 6-7: Applicant now designates claims 50-72 as "withdrawn."

CONCLUSION

Applicants consider the Response herein to be fully responsive to the referenced Office Action. If there are any remaining issues or the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at 617-832-1241.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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